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November 12, 2014

Via Electronic Filing

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte *In the matters of*

- *Technology Transitions, GN Docket No. 13-5*
- *AT&T Petition to Launch a Proceeding Concerning the TDM-to-IP Transition, GN Docket No. 12-353*
- *Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 14-28*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, November 10, 2014, Paul Plofchan, ADT Vice President for Government and Regulatory Affairs, participated in a stakeholder discussion about open Internet concerns with Chairman Wheeler, Gigi Sohn and Daniel Alvarez from the Office of Chairman Wheeler, and Deputy Wireline Bureau Chief Matt DelNero. The following participants were also present at the meeting: Joseph Cavender of Level3, Corie Wright of Netflix, Dave Schaeffer of Cogent, Lauren Van Wazer of Akamai, Brian Huseman of Amazon, Angie Kronenberg of COMPTel, David Hoover of NTCA, and Colleen Boothby of Ad Hoc Users. In addition, Paul Plofchan of ADT and Rachel Sanford of ML Strategies also met with Legal Advisor Priscilla Argeris with the Office of Commissioner Rosenworcel to discuss the above mentioned proceedings on Monday, November 10, 2014. Mr. Plofchan addressed the intersection between Technology Transitions and net neutrality for the alarm industry in both meetings.

Services provided by companies like ADT, including home alarm and Personal Emergency Response Services (PERS), are the main connection to 911 emergency services and first responders for many consumers. It is a priority of the alarm industry to ensure that customers are able to connect to their current alarm and life safety services after the IP Transition is complete. Communications services intended to replace POTS (plain old telephone service) must meet certain technical criteria as defined in Managed Facilities-Based Voice Network (MFVN) agreements. For example, the ability for line seizure to occur is necessary to the critical life safety components of any new communications service installation. ADT is working with stakeholders, including communications service providers, to ensure MFVN standards are met as new broadband-based technology is deployed.

In addition, ADT advocates for proper testing of alarm functionality and data collection regarding post installation alarm functionality within the Technology Transitions trials. Furthermore, ADT asserts that consumer communication efforts regarding IP Transition and the Technology Transition trials should provide notification of the effect different communication service(s) may have on alarm services, and explain that the new communications services installation technician is responsible for ensuring the customer's existing system functions properly with the new POTS replacement service.

Regarding open Internet, ADT supports Section 706 authority to develop a commercially reasonable standard for enforcement. However, regardless of the enforcement mechanism, consumers expect services – especially public safety and lifesaving signals – that rely on broadband infrastructure to work, allowing first responders and other associated agencies and stakeholders to deliver emergency services as quickly and as effectively as possible. To that end, ADT is interested in participating in stakeholder conversations regarding the importance of life safety signals as part of the overall effort to develop factors for what may be considered commercially reasonable. ADT believes these factors should address: 1) Protection of Alarm Industry Competition; 2) Quality of Service (QoS) for Signals; 3) Respect for Alarm Industry Competitively-sensitive Information; and 4) Adherence to MFVN Principles.

- 1) **Protection of Alarm Industry Competition:** While ADT is the largest alarm and home monitoring service provider in North America, the alarm industry consists of thousands of smaller alarm companies, as well as Internet Service Providers (ISPs), that are also competing in this space. ADT embraces this competition. In order for competition to continue to thrive, ISPs should not discriminate against the signals and/or devices of independent alarm industry companies and their affiliates in favor of the ISPs own signals and/or devices.
- 2) **Quality of Service (QoS) for Signals:** Life safety signals should receive the highest QoS on all transmission networks at all times.
- 3) **Respect for Alarm Industry Competitively-sensitive Information:** ISPs should respect the privacy of users who rely upon its network, including the users of alarm company services. ISPs offering alarm services should protect against any use of alarm services provider information or data, and/or that which is exchanged between an alarm services provider and its customers, for purposes other than that which is necessary for network management.
- 4) **Adherence to MFVN Principles:** As discussed above, alarm companies and broadband service providers should continue to adhere to the characteristics of a MFVN agreement consistent with effective and verifiable network standards.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed via ECFS, and a copy will be provided via email to the attendees.

Sincerely,



Rachel Sanford

Cc: Chairman Wheeler, Gigi Sohn, Daniel Alvarez, Matt DelNero, Priscilla Argeris